WEST VIRGINIA INFORMATONAL LETTER

No. 59 March 1989

TO: ALL INSURANCE COMPANIES LICENSED TO TRANSACT INSURANCE IN WEST VIRIGNIA AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES

RE: PRE-LICENSING EDUCATION FOR INSURANCE AGENTS

Legislation was enacted during the 1988 legislative session which called for the creation of a Board of Insurance Agent Education. The Board is charged with proposing criteria for a prelicensing education program and submitting same to the Insurance Commissioner on or before December 31st each year.

The program presented to this office by the Board on December 31, 1988 has been approved and will go into effect July 1, 1989.

West Virginias program will require prospective insurance agents and currently licensed agents adding any new power to their existing license to complete and pass a course of study which has been approved by the Board prior to sitting for the agent licensing examination which is administered by Educational Testing Service.

The required number of course hours is as follows:

LIFE Only
ACCIDENT & SICKNESS Only
LIFE and A & S Only
PROPERTY-CASUALTY

30 Hours
40 Hours
40 Hours

Person exempt from the prelicensing requirement are agents actively licensed prior to July 1, 1989, other than those agents who wish to add any new power to their license, CLU or CPCU designees, applicants for Excess Line Broker licenses, and applicants for licenses which do not require examination.

Courses may be either classroom or correspondence/self-study and must be approved by the Board of Insurance Agent Education prior to the course being advertised or offered to prospective agents. Names and locations of approved course providers will be maintained by the Agent Licensing Section of this office.

The next meeting of the Board of Insurance Agent Education is scheduled for April 19, 1989, at which time the Board will review any applications for course/instructor approval which have been received. The Board will meet periodically, thereafter, to review applications submitted by providers for course/instructor approval.

An Information Packet which contains the course outlines, instructions and applications for course and instructor approval are available by writing or calling Jane Strother, West Virginia Insurance Commissioners Office, Agent Licensing Section, 2019 Washington St., E., Charleston, WV 25305, telephone 304 348-0610.

Sincerely,

Hanley C. Clark Insurance Commissioner